

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
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R 261824Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0787
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY SANA
USMISSION SINAI
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PEPR EG UR
SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN PRESS ON SOVIET MENACE

REF: CAIRO 15452 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY. IN CONTEXT OF COMING KHARTOUM OAU AND BELGRADE
NON-ALIGNED MEETINGS, PRESS JUNE 26 CALLS ATTENTION TO
SOVIET INTERVENTION AND APPEALS FOR END TO FOREIGN
MILITARY PRESENCE. NEVERTHELESS GOE LIKELY TO
KEEP LOW PROFILE ON THIS ISSUE AT MEETINGS AND TODAY'S
CLARION CALLS PROBABLY FOR INTERNAL CONSUMPTION.
PRESS PINS RESPONSIBILITY FOR GHASHMI ASSASSINATION
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ON SOVIETS. END SUMMARY.

1. AFRICA. IN CONTEXT OF UPCOMING KHARTOUM OAU AND
BELGRADE NON-ALIGNED MEETING, AHRAM EDITORIAL JUNE 26
DRAWS ATTENTION TO "GRAVE DANGER" TO NON-ALIGNED
COUNTRIES OF SUPERPOWER INTERVENTION IN AFRICA. SOVIET
AND CUBAN MILITARY ACTIVITY VIEWED AS PART OF PLAN TO

CONTAIN NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT AND EVENTUALLY ELIMINATE IT. EDITORIAL CALLED ON AFRICAN AND NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES TO CONFRONT THREAT AND TAKE "PRACTICAL" STAND ON FOREIGN MILITARY INTERVENTION IN AFRICA. PRIME MINISTER SALEM, IN JUNE 25 ALEXANDRIA SPEECH, REPEATED GOE CONCERNS RE SOVIET POLICY IN HORN AND EGYPTIAN OPPOSITION TO ANY EXTERNAL FORCE DOMINATING RED SEA OR BAB EL MANDEB. NOTING SOVIETS AND CUBANS TRYING TO DEEPEN DIFFERENCES AMONG AFRICAN COUNTRIES, SALEM URGED AFRICAN SOLUTIONS FOR AFRICAN PROBLEMS.

2. GHASHMI ASSASSINATION. PRESS PROMINENTLY REPORTED SADAT'S CONDOLENCES TO YARG ON GHASHMI ASSASSINATION, WHICH PRESIDENT TERMED "TREACHEROUS STAB" AGAINST YAR. AKHBAR HIGHLIGHTED STATEMENT OF MORIBUND UNITED NATIONAL FRONT OF SOUTH YEMEN CAIRO OFFICE WHICH CLAIMED ASSASSINATION PART OF "COMMUNIST DESIGN" TO DESTABILIZE NORTH YEMEN AND TO FACILITATE SOVIET ACTIONS IN HORN. AHARAM CLAIMED GHASHMI MURDER AIMED AT STRENGTHENING SOVIET REGIONAL INFLUENCE.

3. COMMENT. CALL FOR ACTION AGAINST SOVIETS AND CUBANS BY OAU AND NAM PROBABLY DOES NOT SIGNAL GOE AGGRESSIVE STANCE AT THOSE MEETINGS. AS NOTED REFTEL, GOE STILL FEELING VULNERABLE IN INTERNATIONAL FORA DUE TO STALEMATED PEACE PROCESS AND LIKELY MAINTAIN LOW PROFILE. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EDITORIAL AND SALEM'S REPETITION OF TRADITIONAL ANTI-SOVIET POSITIONS PROBABLY DESIGNED FOR INTERNAL CONSUMPTION. EILTS

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